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left here about ten months ago. The names of the commissioners are Doctor Simon, president, and Doctor Marchoux, member. They have gone to Petropolis to live, and I shall call upon them at an early date.

I have been informed from a fairly reliable source that they left here last year fully convinced of the truth of the assertion that yellow fever is capable of transmission by the mosquito alone, and that they have returned this year, not for any further information on this point, but for the purpose of finding out whether there can not be established some method of inoculation against or prophylactic medication based on inoculation theories in regard to yellow fever.

From a conversation I had to-day with the secretary of the American legation here, who had seen the members of the French yellow-fever commission yesterday, the commission stated, in reply to a question as to what danger, in their opinion, threatened this city from the public works of the port contracted for and the upturning of many tons of mud and filth from the bottom of the bay incident thereto, they placed themselves on record by replying that they saw no reason for an outbreak of yellow fever here on that account, provided that the employees were properly taken care of and that exposure to mosquitoes during the work was avoided as far as possible.

CHINA.

Report from Hongkong—Smallpox—Summary of plague for the year 1903—Examination of rats.

Passed Assistant Surgeon McMullen reports, January 13, as follows:

During the week ended January 9, 1904, seven vessels, with 552 officers and crew, were inspected and granted bills of health. There were also 184 passengers inspected—110 cabin and 74 steerage; 423 crew and 62 steerage passengers were bathed and their baggage was disinfected, 411 pieces. There were 25 aliens recommended for rejection because of loathsome or dangerous contagious disease.

No communicable diseases were reported for the period covered by this report, and 1 case of smallpox is the only one reported since December 7, when the last plague case occurred. There were 1,422 cases of plague reported as having occurred in the colony during the year 1903.

The rat return for the week was as follows: Two hundred and sixty-three rats (including 2 infected rats) were caught in Hongkong and 124 (including 5 infected) were caught in Kowloon.

CUBA.

Report from Cienfuegos.

Acting Assistant Surgeon McMahon reports, February 11, as follows: During the week ended February 6, 1904, bills of health were issued to 5 vessels going to ports in the United States, all in good sanitary condition and no sickness on board.

No quarantinable disease has appeared at this port during this week.

The sanitary condition of the city is fairly good.

The mortuary report for the first ten days of this month will be forwarded with my next report.